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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAL EXPO TO PAY TRIBUTE TO SEPTEMBER 11

SACRAMENTO- Cal Expo officials announced preparations are being made for a day of reflection to honor victims of September 11, 2001 at The California State Fair September 11 Memorial Plaza located on the fairgrounds in Sacramento.

Beginning at 8 a.m., there will be an "Empty Shoes" memorial tribute of 2970 pairs of shoes on the island in front of the Main Gate at Cal Expo to represent on who lost their lives on that day.

The Cal Expo gates will open at 8 a.m. and the public will be invited to attend a program including a motorcycle tribute, prayers, choral group, para-jumper delivering the American flag, playing of the National Anthem, and memorial messages by Eric Hogue, Amy Bartlet, Tom McClintock and Michael Babich.

The California State Fair September 11 Memorial Plaza will be open to the general public at 10:30 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. on Sunday, September 11th, the tenth anniversary of the attack on the United States. Parking at Cal Expo this day will be free and admission to the memorial will be free.

The construction of the Cal Expo memorial began a year after the attack, when Cal Expo board member Larry Davis personally acquired and donated to Cal Expo 125,000 pounds of wreckage from the World Trade Center. A massive I-beam extracted from Ground Zero, which had been a horizontal support beam from the North Tower, was among the debris. Davis personally arranged for the wreckage to be shipped via rail to California.

Through private donations to the California State Fair Memorial Plaza Foundation a 501c (3), the exhibit was been expanded to include additional elements. Central to the exhibit is a beautiful fountain including a granite ball inscribed with all of the names of the September 11 victims. Additional features include a carillon bell tower, reflections of the World Trade Center, and individual memorials to Flight 77 which crashed into the Pentagon and Flight # 93 aborted in a field in Pennsylvania.

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